

Appl. No. 10/604,854

Amdt. dated October 11, 2005

Reply to Office action of July 26, 2005

### **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

#### **Allowable Subject Matter**

##### **Examiner:**

Claims 2, 4, 6, 8, and 10 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base  
5 claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the  
limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

##### **Response:**

The applicant acknowledges the allowance of claims 2, 4, 6, 8, and 10. While  
10 the applicant notices that the allowance or rejection of claim 11 is not set forth in the  
Office Action, in view of the phrase "a clip positioned at an external electrode of the  
fluorescent lamps" described in the statement of reasons for the indication of  
allowable subject matter shown in paragraph 5 on page 4 of the Office Action, claim  
11 is inferred to be allowed. As a result, claims 2, 4, 6, 8, and 11 have been rewritten  
15 as suggested by the examiner.

The limitations of claim 2 have been incorporated into previously presented claim  
1. No new material has been introduced. Claims 3, 4, 6, and 8-11 are dependent on  
claim 1, and should be allowed if claim 1 is allowed.

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The limitations of claim 4 have been incorporated into previously presented claim  
1 and rewritten as new claim 12. No new material has been introduced. New  
Claims 13-19 are added based on the original claims 2, 3, 6, and 8-11, respectively,  
and dependent on claim 12, and should be allowed if claim 12 is allowed. No new  
25 material has been introduced.

The limitations of claim 6 have been incorporated into previously presented claim

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I and rewritten as new claim 20. No new material has been introduced.

The limitations of claim 8 have been incorporated into previously presented claim 1 and rewritten as new claim 21. No new material has been introduced.

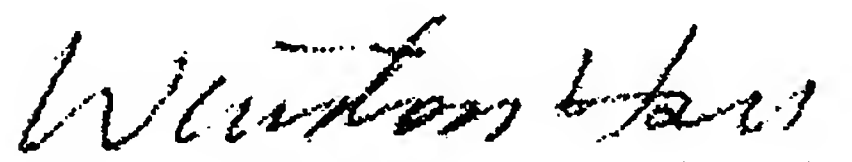
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The limitations of claim 11 and intervening claim 10 have been incorporated into previously presented claim 1 and rewritten as new claim 22. No new material has been introduced.

10 As a result of the claim amendments, the applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Therefore, reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

15 Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Sincerely yours,



Date: October 11, 2005

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